

QA-221  
Clayland Price Farm  
Stevensville vicinity  
Private

circa 1850

The early brick house on the Clayland Price Farm is believed to date to circa 1850, an attribution reinforced by the mixture of transitional decorative elements from both the second and third quarters of the 19th century. While typical in many respects of a house type that enjoyed considerable favor in the 1840's and 1850's, this house displays a remarkable variety of unusual decorative details, some of which may be unique in the county. These include the wheat sheaf fretwork on the third floor stair landing, the carved heart pattern coat rail in the first floor hall, the interior doors with molded panels in the lock rails, and the grained stucco facing of the fireplace in the north second floor sleeping chamber. Other details of interest include the brick dentil course corbeled cornice, the unusual interior architrave trim, and the evidence of segregated chambers over the kitchen.

Early outbuildings include a brick dairy, the brick walls of a derelict meat house, and the ruins of a larger brick building said to be a slave quarter.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Clayland Price Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West side of Maryland Route 18

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles C. Price, Jr.

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21666

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 26

Folio #: 141

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

QA-221

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clayland Price Farm is located on the west side of Maryland Route 18, overlooking the Chesapeake Bay, approximately two miles north of Stevensville on Kent Island.

The house is of brick construction, 2 1/2 stories high, five bays wide, and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at each end of a pitched gable roof. An original 1 1/2 story, three bay brick wing extends from the north gable. To the west of the wing are what remains of three early outbuildings. These include a small brick dairy in relatively stable condition, the brick walls of a meat house, and the ruins of a larger brick building traditionally believed to be a slave quarter.

The front facade of the main house faces east, toward Route 18. It is laid in seven-course bond with a corbeled brick dentil course cornice. There is a door with sidelights and transom in the center bay of the first floor flanked by two large 6/6 windows on either side. Five smaller 6/6 windows are ranged across the second floor and three 6/6 pitched roof dormers are ranged across the third floor. The roof is asphalt shingle.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

The only openings in the south gable wall are a row of narrow ventilation holes to allow air into the crawl space below the first floor. The eaves are finished with beaded and tapered rakeboards that flare out at the base and stop against a corbeled "shelf" that is carried around each facade cornice. The north gable is almost entirely covered by the wing, but the rakeboards are treated in the same manner.

The west facade, facing the bay, is laid in six-course bond, but otherwise is essentially identical to the east facade. Ventilation holes near ground level allow more air into the crawl space.

The front or east facade of the wing is flush with the facade of the main house, with no seam in the brickwork between the two sections. There is a door in the center on the first floor flanked by a single 6/6 window on either side. Two pitched roof 6/6 dormers are symmetrically ordered on the roof. The brickwork is seven-course bond with a plain three-course corbeled cornice. There are no openings in the north gable of the wing. Tapered and flared rakeboards enclose the gable eaves. A frame lean-to addition covers all but

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

the north bay of the west facade of the wing, which is set back about 18 inches from the west facade of the main house. A door in the center of this facade of the wing now opens onto the frame lean-to. There is a six-over-six window in the north bay, to the left of the door.

The interior of the main house consists of a center hall plan, with single parlors flanking the stair hall. The stair rises in a straight run against the north wall of the hall, then turns with three rises to a landing in the southwest corner of the hall, and continues up to the second floor. It is an open-string stair with a turned walnut newel at the base, tapered ballusters, and a gracefully ramped walnut rail. The newel post at the first turn runs all the way down to the floor, and is turned only above the carriage. The stair ends are decorated with scrolled brackets; a more elaborate piece of scrolled fretwork embellishes the carriage piece on the soffit of the landing. Other touches of refinement include an eight-point star inlaid in the top of the first newel with an ivory button in the center, and turned drops on the lower ends of the newel posts on the second and third

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

floor. The stair landing passes across the rear door transom on the first floor and is held out from the wall enough to allow indirect light from the transom to filter down to the hall. A beaded coat rail on the south wall of the hall is embellished with a carved horizontal panel terminated at each end with a heart.

In the south parlor, the chimney projects into the room from the south gable wall. The mantel is relatively simple, with plain square pillasters topped with cyma recta caps supporting a plain frieze and a shelf with broad cove molding below. The window openings are framed with architrave moldings that run all the way to the floor. The architraves consist of a broken field fascia with a beaded inner edge, a flattened Greek ogee between the two fields and a Victorian ogee backband. The rabbetted and molded baseboard only runs between the window architraves. Above the door and window openings, the lintel piece of the architrave and the backband molding are arched.

In the north parlor, there is a door to the wing to the right of the fireplace and a door to the left leading up an enclosed straight-run stair to the second floor of the wing. The mantel in this room is identical to the south mantel. The baseboard and architrave trim also matches the hall and south parlor, except that the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

architraves are not arched above the openings.

On the second floor, there is an original unheated chamber at the east end of the center stair hall. In most details the second floor is identical to the first. The same mantels, baseboard, and architrave trim are used, and the lintels are arched in the hall, the hall chamber, and the south room but not in the north room. One unusual detail is the molded horizontal "panel" found on the lock rails of several of the second story doors. Original closets flanking the south fireplace have paneled doors with molded lock rails and are painted and grained on the inside face. Graining is also evident in the painted surface of the stuccoed brick facing of the north fireplace, a detail previously unrecorded in the county.

The stair continues up to the third floor, with unique "wheat sheaf" fretwork on the carriage piece of the third floor landing. The center stair hall is flanked by a single room on each side. The two interior doors have pyramidal fielded panels and molded lock styles similar to the second floor. The architrave trim is rabbeted and beaded, the baseboard is rabbeted. The trim boards on the dormer window openings are also

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

rabbeted, rather than the almost universal beaded edge.

The first floor of the wing is divided into a large kitchen to the north, a short hall to the southeast, and a pantry to the southwest. A large blocked kitchen fireplace is centered on the north gable wall. The door and window architraves are plain, with Greek ogee hood molds. The floor of the kitchen is lower than the south end of the wing, suggesting an original dirt floor. A steep ladder-stair in the northwest corner of the kitchen was the only access to the second floor kitchen chamber. This was removed in 1935 and the two second floor rooms were joined by a connecting door.

Outbuildings

To the northwest of the main house are three early outbuildings. Closest to the house is a square brick dairy with a pyramidal roof. This building is in good condition and is used for storage. Immediately to the west are the brick walls of a slightly larger smokehouse. To the west of the smokehouse are the ruins of a larger brick building traditionally known as the slave quarter. This structure was approximately



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.6 DESCRIPTION

20 feet long and 22 feet deep with a steeply pitched roof cantilevered out over the south wall. The building collapsed during a hurricane some years ago. The brick walls are almost completely destroyed, while the roof and the frame gables remain partially intact. Very little evidence remains of original window and door openings, and of original stair and chimney locations. Based on framing evidence, a 20th century stair was located in the southeast corner of the building, possibly replacing an earlier stair in the northeast corner. A door in the upper gable of the west wall may be evidence of an exterior stair. There is no clear evidence of an original chimney, but the roof apparently was rebuilt in the late 19th century. Dating evidence is also scanty. The framing material includes hewn joists and wide floorboards secured with machine nails. Some wrought nails are visible but appear to indicate reused material. The roof framing is mostly circular sawn and machine nailed. Evidence of a corbeled brick cornice and the predominance of machine nails indicates this structure is contemporary with the main house.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

QA-221

**PERIOD****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

---

**SPECIFIC DATES****BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

---

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The early brick house on the Clayland Price Farm is believed to date to circa 1850, an attribution reinforced by the mixture of transitional decorative elements from both the second and third quarters of the 19th century. While typical in many respects of a house type that enjoyed considerable favor in the 1840's and 1850's, this house displays a remarkable variety of unusual decorative details, some of which may be unique in the county. These include the wheat sheaf fretwork on the third floor stair landing, the carved heart pattern coat rail in the first floor hall, the interior doors with molded panels in the lock rails, and the grained stucco facing of the fireplace in the north second floor sleeping chamber. Other details of interest include the brick dentil course corbeled cornice, the unusual interior architrave trim, and the evidence of

---

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

segregated chambers over the kitchen.

Early outbuildings include a brick dairy, the brick walls of a derelict meat house, and the ruins of a larger brick building said to be a slave quarter.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

QA-221

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

10/9/80

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

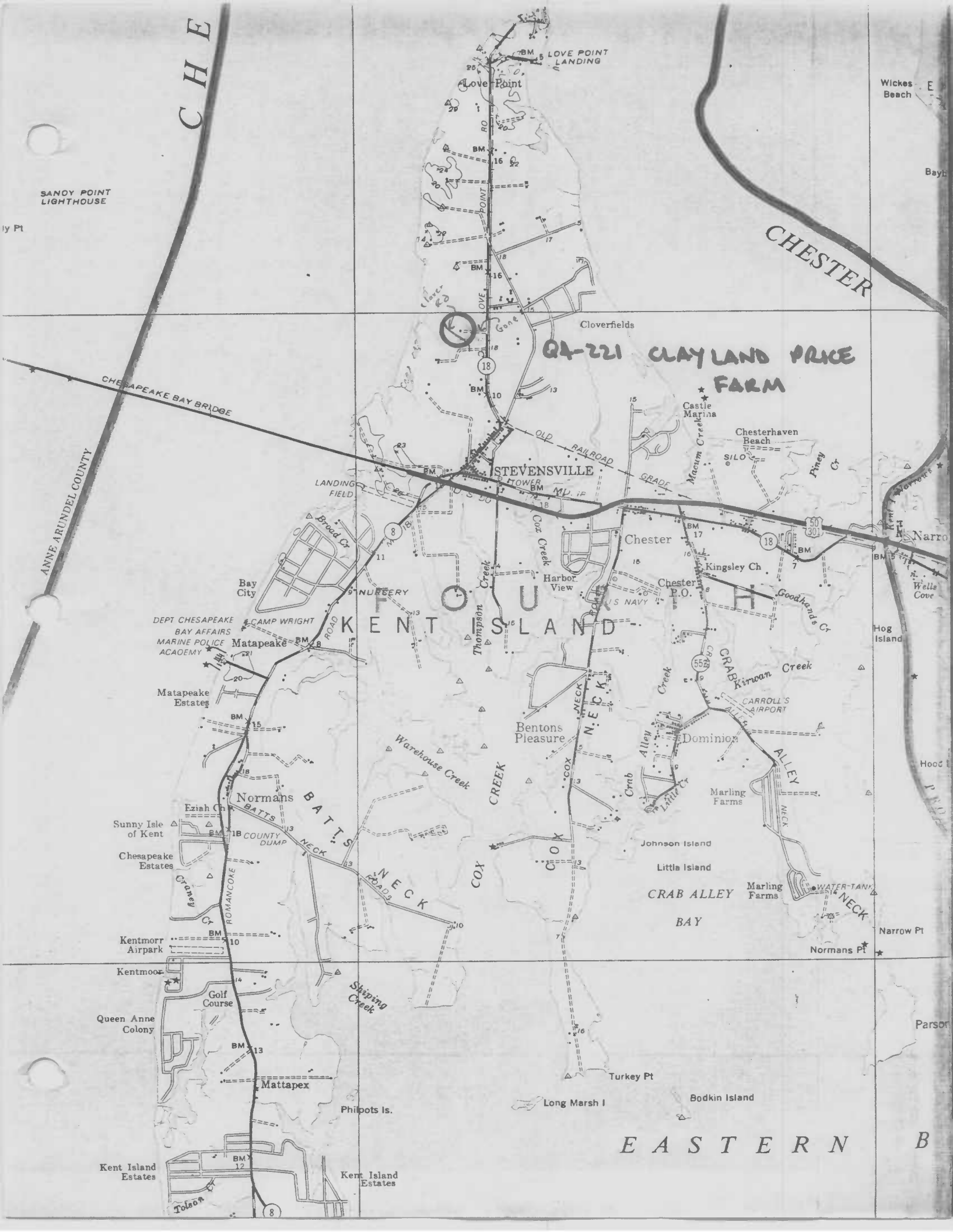
Maryland

Field Notebook QA-IX; Recorded June 13, 1979.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



QA-221

Clayland Price Farm

Mary McCarthy  
Spring/Summer 2003  
Digital color photo on file at MHT





QA-221 Clayland Price Farm  
Stevensville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1980  
View from East





QA-221 Clayland Price Farm  
Stevensville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1980  
View from West